

## **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

### **RS19674**

Each year, more than 250,000 Americans die from sudden cardiac arrest. That is equal to 600 people a day and nearly 25 lives per hour. Survival rates are significantly increased when an automated external defibrillator (AED) is available and deployed within 3 to 5 minutes of a sudden cardiac arrest event. For every minute without a shock to the heart, the chance of survival decreases by 7 to 10 percent. Unfortunately, many public places are reluctant to purchase an AED due to the liability inherent in Idaho law.

This legislation is directed at encouraging the placement of AEDs by providing civil liability protection to owners of AEDs. It increases the negligence standard from simple negligence to gross negligence, while still providing appropriate requirements regarding the maintenance of AEDs.

### **FISCAL NOTE**

There is no fiscal impact on the state general fund.

#### **Contact:**

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